

Public Access Glossary

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

PA1. Number of dollars spent on activities that provide or enhance public access to the coast

The purpose of this measure is to quantify the financial contribution of the CZM program in providing or enhancing public access in the coastal zone. This measure includes projects eligible under Section 306, 306A, or 309 that provide or enhance public access to the coast. Matching dollars reported should be limited to the amount included in your award application. Additional dollars should be reported as leveraged dollars in measure PA2. Report the following:

- 1) The number of CZMA federal and matching dollars spent during your reporting period on public access activities, and
- 2) The number of state, non-CZMA dollars spent by the CZM program during your reporting period on public access activities.

PA2. Number of dollars leveraged by CZMA funds for activities that provide or enhance public access to the coast

The purpose of this measure is to quantify the additional or leveraged dollars that CZM activities generate to provide or enhance public access in the coastal zone. Sources of leveraged dollars can be federal, state, or local government agencies or other organizations such as for-profits or foundations. Report the following:

- The number of dollars leveraged during your reporting period that are directly related to public access activities funded with CZMA federal or matching funds.

PA3. Number of approved CZM programs that have a process to periodically assess the public demand for increased and/or improved public access sites within the coastal zone

The purpose of this measure is to describe the role of CZM programs in assessing public demand for access in the coastal zone. This measure requires a response of “YES” or “NO” to the following questions:

- 1) Are CZMA federal or matching funds used to periodically assess demand for increased or improved public access in the coastal zone?
- 2) Are non-CZMA funds used by the CZM program to periodically assess demand for increased or improved public access in the coastal zone?

PA4. Number new sites that provide public access to the coast, by category

- a) beach/shoreline access
- b) recreational boat access
- c) other natural/cultural resource access

The purpose of this measure is to quantify the impact of CZM programs in providing for new public access in the coastal zone. Because CZM funding may have only provided a portion of the funding necessary to create a public access site, OCRM will use text with this measure that indicates that public access sites are created in cooperation with CZM program partners. This measure focuses on three categories: beach or shoreline access; recreational boat access; and other natural or cultural resource access. Examples of “other natural resource access” are access sites for natural habitats that occur within the state’s coastal zone other than beach, shoreline or boat-access sites, such as freshwater wetlands or forested habitat. Examples of “other cultural resource access” are access sites at historic areas or structures, such as lighthouses. New sites can include the addition of publicly owned land through fee simple ownership or through easement. Your program should establish a description of what criteria will be used to differentiate a ‘site’. For example, if a new state park is established that contains separate geographic areas within the park for each category, you may choose to report one new site for each category. Each program can establish their own criteria for what a site is based on how the data is currently available, program needs, and policies. This measure will require reporting the following for each category (a-c):

- 1) The number of new sites created using CZMA federal or matching funds; and
- 2) The number of new sites created using non-CZMA funds.

PA5. Number of existing public access sites that have been enhanced, by category

- a) beach/shoreline access
- b) recreational boat access
- c) other natural/cultural resource access

The purpose of this measure is to quantify the impact of CZM programs in enhancing public access in the coastal zone. Enhancements can include activities eligible under Section 306A, including educational signage, trail or boardwalk construction or renovation, and the addition of fish cleaning stations, parking, or bathroom facilities. Your program should establish a description of what criteria will be used to report an activity as an enhancement of an existing public access site. As with the measure above, each program can establish their own criteria for what a site is based on how the data is currently available, program needs, and policies. This measure will require reporting the following for each category (a-c):

- 1) The number of sites enhanced during the reporting period using CZMA funding; and
- 2) The number of sites enhanced by the CZM program during the reporting period using non-CZMA funds.

PA6. Number of sites where public access is protected or maintained through CZM permitting activities, by category

- a) beach/shoreline access
- b) recreational boat access
- c) other natural/cultural resource access

The purpose of this measure is to describe the role of CZM programs in protecting public access through regulatory activities. This measure focuses on the number of sites where the loss of public access was prevented primarily due to revised permit applications, conditions imposed, or permits denied as part of permitting, federal consistency, or other regulatory activities. Sites can include any site that provides public access that may have been lost due to proposed development activities that fall under a CZM permitting program. As with the measures above, each program can establish their own criteria for what a site is based on how the data is currently available, program needs, and policies. If your program does not include public access in your CZM permitting activities, you can report “Not Applicable”. This measure will require reporting the following for each category (a-c):

- 1) The number of sites where public access was protected or maintained during the reporting period due to permitting programs supported with CZMA federal or matching funds; and
- 2) The number of sites where public access was protected or maintained during the reporting period due to permitting programs supported with non-CZMA funds.

PA7. Percent of public that feels they have adequate access to the coast for recreation purposes

The purpose of this measure is to quantify the level of satisfaction the public feels with their recreational access in the coastal zone. State data may not currently exist for this measure or may be limited geographically. Please determine if your state has a survey or other method of assessing coastal public access. This measure will focus on the number of people that respond that their access to the coast was adequate or better. For example, this measure will indicate that a statewide survey resulting in responses from 1,000 people found that 800 reported adequate or better access to the coast. NOAA will continue to identify national data sources that may also provide data for this measure. If your state does not have an appropriate survey, report “Not Applicable”. This measure requires reporting the following:

- 1) The number of people that responded to a survey on recreational access; and
- 2) The number of responses indicating that access to the coast for recreational purposes was adequate or better.

CONTEXTUAL MEASURES

PA8. Percent of acres in coastal zone open for public use

The purpose of this measure is to describe the amount of land open for public use within a state’s coastal zone. The number of acres will be reported each reporting period rather than reporting percent change during that period. Acres reported should include both upland and tidal areas that are open for public use regardless of ownership within the coastal zone. Your program should establish the total number of acres in your coastal zone as a number that will remain constant unless your coastal management program

boundary is altered in the future. Your program may also want to establish a definition for public use that is compatible with your state policies and existing data sources. Report the following:

- 1) The total number of acres in your coastal zone; and
- 2) The number of acres in the coastal zone that are open for public use.

PA9. Percent of total miles of beach in coastal zone open for public use

The purpose of this measure is to describe the amount of beach available for public use within a state's coastal zone. Beach miles are not necessarily equal to shoreline miles because there may be other shoreline types present in your coastal zone. This indicator is only measuring beach miles. The number of miles will be reported each reporting period rather than the percent change during that period. Your program should use the definition of beach that was required for your program approval. Programs should also establish a protocol for the measurement of beach miles to be consistent over time; the total miles of beach may change from year to year. Your program may want to establish a definition for public use that is compatible with your state policies and existing data sources. Report the following:

- 1) The number of miles of beach in the coastal zone; and
- 2) The number of miles of beach that are open for public use.

PA10. Number of coastal sites open for public use, by category:

- a) beach/shoreline access
- b) recreational boat access
- c) other natural/cultural resource access

The purpose of this measure is to quantify public accessibility to the coastal zone provided by federal, state, local, or private entities. The number of sites will be reported each reporting period rather than the percent change during that period. Coastal sites include both upland and tidal areas open for public access, regardless of ownership, within your coastal zone. You should link the data collected for this measure with the data for measure PA8. Your program should establish a description of what criteria will be used to differentiate a 'site'. For example, if a park contains separate geographic areas for each category, you may choose to report one site for each category. Each program can establish their own criteria for what a site is based on how the data is currently available, program needs, and policies. Report the following:

- 1) The number of public beach and shoreline access sites;
- 2) The number of public recreational boat access sites; and
- 3) The number of public access sites for natural or cultural resource areas.